

LAUGHS WITH "THE LAST OF THE MARKERS"-INSIDE!

LION

4p
EVERY MONDAY

15th DECEMBER, 1973

AND THUNDER



South Africa 15c., Australia 15c., New Zealand 15c., Rhodesia 15c., Nigeria 10c., Malaysia 10c., Malta 4c.

A STRANGE NEW THRILLER STARTS RIGHT HERE!

SARK the SLEEPER



CONTINUED OVER PAGE

Tommy Dorsey and his Swing Band gave a special concert to monkeys at Philadelphia Zoo in 1940.

THE LURKING CREATURE WAS JUST ABOUT TO KILL A PROUDLY SMUG AT THE UNSUSPECTING GORGES - WHEN...



THE HORROROUS GORGES, AND SOUNDS OF CONVICTION IN THE UNDERGROWTH, TERRIFIED VAL.



NEXT MOMENT...



AS THEY RAN, THE GROUND GAVE WAY BENEATH THEIR FEET...

WHAT'S HAPPENED?



THEY PICKED THEMSELVES UP AND GAZED AROUND IN AWE AND WONDER...



NO, GORGES! DON'T OPEN IT!



VAL'S WARNING CAME TOO LATE...



Neolithic men are said to have worshipped pine trees.



AN ASTONISHING SIGHT CONFRONTED GREG AND VAL!

SARK the SLEEPER



The Humber Bridge, to be completed by 1976, will be the world's longest suspension bridge.



WEIRD MONSTERS WERE LOOSE IN THE VAST STARSHIP!

SARK the SLEEPER



Scientists think eelgrass, a flowering plant that lives below the sea, may be a food of the future.



TERRIFIC THRILLS IN THIS GREAT WEIRD YARN!

SARK the SLEEPER

A FAST SPACESHIP SET OUT FROM EARTH ON A VOYAGE TO THE STARS WHICH WOULD TAKE CENTURIES. IT WAS COMPLETELY EQUIPPED TO KEEP MANY GENERATIONS OF PASSENGERS ALIVE. OF THOSE WHO SET OUT, ONLY SARK WOULD REACH THE DESTINATION, FOR HE HAD BEEN PUT INTO A DEEP SLEEP FROM WHICH HE WOULD AWAKEN TO TAKE CHARGE. BUT SOMETHING WENT WRONG. THE SHIP GOT OFF COURSE. SARK SLEPT A THOUSAND YEARS TOO LONG. TIME HAD BROUGHT MANY CHANGES. THE DESCENDANTS OF THE ORIGINAL PASSENGERS NO LONGER KNEW THE PURPOSE OF THE VOYAGE, OR EVEN THAT THEIR WORLD WAS A SHIP. AS SARK LEARNED FROM HIS RESCUERS, WIL AND GREG.



"SARK! WE ARE LOST IN THE LAND OF THE UGLIES! WE SHALL NEVER FIND OUR WAY HOME!"

"STOP THERESHING AROUND, BOTH OF YOU! YOU'RE ONLY GETTING DEEPER IN THE SWAMP!"



"I'VE GOT TO REACH THE NAVIGATION BRIDGE, OR EVERYONE ABOARD IS DOOMED! IF I CAN IDENTIFY WHAT PART OF THE SHIP WE'RE IN, I'LL KNOW WHICH DIRECTION TO TAKE..."



"BUT EVERYTHING SEEMS TO HAVE CHANGED! MUCH OF THE MACHINERY FOR RE-CYCLING THE WASTE PRODUCTS OF THE SHIP SO THAT THEY COULD BE RE-USED MUST HAVE STARTED BREAKING DOWN CENTURIES AGO..."



"THIS TREE-TRUNK SHOULD KEEP US ALL AFOAT!"



"CLIMB ABOARD, WE'LL CRUISE AROUND AND I'LL TRY TO SPOT SOMETHING WHICH WILL GIVE US OUR BEARINGS."



"THIS IS DANGEROUS COUNTRY—THE LAND OF THE UGLIES!"

"JUST WHO ARE THESE UGLIES? WHAT DO THEY LOOK LIKE?"



"NO ONE HAS EVER ACTUALLY SEEN AN UGLY! BUT WE KNOW THAT THEIR FOREFATHERS WERE EVIL MEN WHO FLED INTO THE WILDERNESS TO ESCAPE PUNISHMENT!"

"THEY COMMITTED THE WORST CRIME OF ALL. THEY WASTED THINGS!"



"THAT FIGURES. WHEN THE SHIP STARTED ITS VOYAGE IT WAS KNOWN THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO KEEP RE-USING EVERYTHING ABOARD, UNTIL IT REACHED ITS DESTINATION. THE FIRST LAW DRAWN UP FOR THE PASSENGERS WAS THAT ALL WASTE WAS FORBIDDEN!"

Australian composer Percy Grainger wrote a piece of music for 40 guitars and mandolins.

THEY LITTLE REALISED THAT THEY WERE BEING WARNED BY A SMALL BOY, RIGID WITH TERROR.



A BLOOD-CHILLING CRY ECHOED THROUGH THE SWAMP...



STRANGE BEINGS CAME SWINGING THROUGH THE BRANCHES.



SARK WAS SUDDENLY PROVED RIGHT, AS THE FRIGHTENED BOY LOST HIS GRASP.



HEIDEOUS SWAMP CREATURES WERE ATTRACTED TOWARDS THE STRUGGLING BOY.



THE STRANGE WORLD OF THE GIANT STAR-SHIP!

SARK the SLEEPER

SARK'S JOB WAS TO AWAKEN AND TAKE COMMAND OF A LOST STARSHIP WHEN IT NEARED THE END OF A CENTURIES-LONG VOYAGE TO THE STARS. BUT THE SHIP WENT OFF-COURSE, AND SARK SLEPT A THOUSAND YEARS TOO LONG! WHEN HE WAS ACCIDENTALLY AWAKENED BY WIL AND GREG IT WAS TO FIND THE SHIP IN A STATE OF DECAY AND THE DESCENDANTS OF THE ORIGINAL PASSENGERS, WHO HAD BECOME DIVIDED INTO HOSTILE GROUPS OF 'GOODIES' AND 'UGLIES', UNAWARE OF THE PURPOSE OF THE VOYAGE, OR EVEN THAT THEIR WORLD WAS A STARSHIP ON THE VERGE OF DESTRUCTION. WIL AND GREG WERE TRYING TO GET SARK TO THE NAVIGATION BRIDGE WHEN THEY RAN INTO A GROUP OF UGLIES.



DON'T INTERFERE, SARK! THEY'RE UGLIES!

WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE A CHANCE. PRODDLE 'EM NEARER.



WE'VE SCARED THE BEETLES OFF!



TAKE BETTER CARE OF THE BOY IN FUTURE!

'YOU SAVE MY SON!' I NOT UNDERSTAND YOU ARE POLLIES! POLLIES KILL!



POLLIES? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

THEY ARE THE SPECIAL GUARDS WHO MAINTAIN ORDER AND ENFORCE THE LAWS OF THE ELDERS!



POLICE! I GET IT! BUT WHY SHOULD THEY THINK THAT?

THE GUN! ONLY POLLIES ARE ALLOWED TO HAVE GUNS!



THAT FIGURES! THERE'S AN ARMOURY ON THIS SHIP, STACKED WITH ALL KINDS OF WEAPONS. BUT IT WAS TO BE KEPT LOCKED UNTIL THE SHIP LANDED!

first official heavyweight boxing champ, John L. Sullivan, was a plumber by trade.



SARK!
WHERE ARE YOU
GOING?

DON'T TRUST
THEM. THEY'RE
UGLIES.

WE'VE GOT TO TRUST
THEM IF WE'RE EVER TO
REACH THE NAVIGATION
BRIDGE AND SAVE THIS
SHIP FROM DISASTER.



WE NEED HELP.
WILL YOU GUIDE US
OUT OF HERE?

NO...NO!

YES!



SARK WAITED ANXIOUSLY WHILE THE MEN
ARGUED...

HOW DO WE
KNOW WE CAN
TRUST THEM?

WE'VE NO CHOICE.
THEY'RE OUR ONLY HOPE
OF SAVING YOUR WORLD
FROM DISASTER.



COME.

LEAD ON

WE'LL HAVE TO
FOLLOW! WE CAN'T
STAY HERE.



THE STRANGE JOURNEY LED THEM THROUGH PARTS OF
THE FIRST SHIP WHICH AGE AND DECAY HAD RENDERED
UNFAMILIAR AND UNRECOGNISABLE TO SARK...

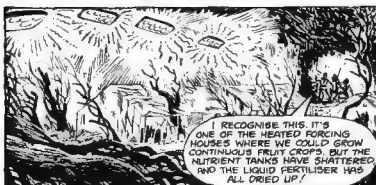
WE MUST BE ON
A STAIRWAY BETWEEN
DECKS. BUT I CAN'T GET
MY BEARINGS. WE
COULD BE ANYWHERE
ON THE SHIP!



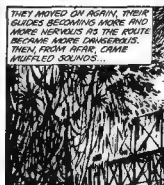
AS THEY CLIMBED, THE AIR GREW
MORE STIFLING AND OPPRESSIVE. A
STRANGE RED LIGHT, WHICH
BECAME MORE INTENSE AS THEY
CLIMBED, FILTERED DOWN FROM
ABOVE.

WHAT'S
CAUSING THIS
STRANGE LIGHT?

WE ARE NEARING
THE TERRIBLE HOT-
LANDS, WHERE NOTHING
LIVES...



I RECOGNISE THIS. IT'S
ONE OF THE HEATED FORCING
HOUSES WHERE WE COULD GROW
CONTINUOUS FRUIT CROPS. BUT THE
NUTRIENT TANKS HAVE SHATTERED
AND THE LIQUID FERTILISER HAS
ALL DRIED UP!



THEY MOVED ON AGAIN, THEIR
GUIDES BECOMING MORE AND
MORE NERVOUS AS THE ROUTE
BECAME MORE DANGEROUS.
THEN, FROM AHEAD, CAME
MUFFLED SOUNDS.



WHAT ARE
THOSE SOUNDS?

BANG!
CLANK!
WHIR!

WE DARE GO NO FURTHER!
WE APPROACH THE LAND OF
DANGERS WHERE NO MAN EVER
VENTURES. IF YOU WISH TO GO
ON YOU MUST GO ALONE!



YOU CAN'T
DESERT US
NOW, SARK.

I'LL GO
AHEAD! YOU KEEP
ME COVERED!

CLAAANK!
WHIR!



THERE'S SOMETHING THERE.
SOMETHING LIVING!
BUT WHAT CAN
IT BE?

CLANK! BANG!

SCRIP!

MORE THRILLS
NEXT WEEK!

ARREST AND TRIAL—FOR TELLING THE TRUTH!



SARK'S JOB WAS TO AWAKEN TO TAKE COMMAND OF A GIG-ANTIC SPACESHIP. WHEN IT NEARED THE END OF ITS CENTURIES-LONG VOYAGE TO THE STARS BUT THE SHIP WENT OFF COURSE AND SARK SLEPT A THOUSAND YEARS TOO LONG. WHEN VAL AND GREG ACCIDENTALLY WOKE HIM, HE FOUND THE SHIP DECAYING AND THE DESCENDANTS OF THE ORIGINAL PASSENGERS, DIVIDED INTO "GOODIES" AND "UGLIES," UNAWARE OF THE PURPOSE OF THEIR VOYAGE OR THAT THEIR WORLD WAS A SPACESHIP ON THE VERGE OF DESTRUCTION. SARK WAS BEING GUIDED BY FRIENDLY UGLIES WHEN IN ONE OF THE MOST DECAYED REGIONS OF THE SHIP, THEY HEARD TERRIFYING SOUNDS!



A STRANGE SHAPE BURST INTO VIEW, CHARGING AT SARK!



GREG CRIED OUT IN DESPAIR, AS SARK VANISHED FROM SIGHT...



ABRUPTLY, THE TERRIFYING DIN CEASED, AND WAS FOLLOWED BY AN UNCOMFORTABLE SILENCE...



IT'S ALL RIGHT! I SOLVED THE MYSTERY. THERE'S NOTHING TO BE SCARED OF. COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELVES!



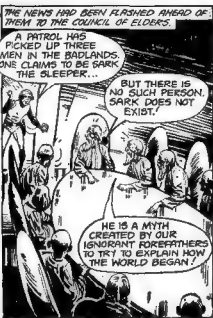
WHAT STRANGE PLACE IS THIS?



THIS IS A GREAT DISCOVERY IT GIVES ME MY BEARINGS. WE'RE NOT FAR FROM THE CENTRE OF THE SHIP!

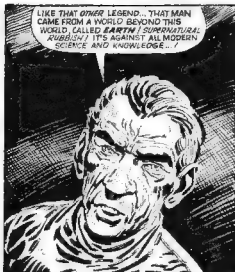


A Parisian bomb-disposal squad blew up a suspicious parcel — to find it contained 6 chicken sandwiches.



"THERE IS NO SUCH PERSON AS SARK THE SLEEPER!"

SARK the SLEEPER



Iceland was settled by Norse pioneers in 874 A.D.



SARK WAS THROWN TO THE FLOOR AND OVERWHELMED!

SARK the SLEEPER

SARK'S JOB WAS TO AWAKEN SO THAT HE COULD TAKE COMMAND OF A VAST SPACESHIP WHEN IT REACHED THE END OF ITS CENTURIES-LONG VOYAGE TO THE STARS. BUT THE SHIP WENT OFF-COURSE. SARK SLAVE A THOUSAND YEARS TOO LONG. WHEN HE WAS FOUND BY VAL, AND GARG HE LEARNED THAT THE PRESENT DESCENDANTS OF THE ORIGINAL PASSENGERS NO LONGER KNEW THE PURPOSE OF THEIR VOYAGE OR WERE AWARE THAT THEIR WORLD WAS A DECAYING SHIPWRECK ON THE VERGE OF DESTRUCTION. IN DESPERATION, SARK TRIED TO FORCE THE LEADER OF THE RUING ELITES TO TAKE HIM TO THE SHIP'S NAVIGATION BRIDGE...



CALL OFF YOUR GUARDS! GET ME TO THE NAVIGATION BRIDGE OR I'LL PULL THE TRIGGER!

NOW I KNOW YOU ARE MAD!



HOW WOULD KILLING ME HELP YOU? MY PEOPLE SURROUND YOU! YOU WILL PERISH WITHIN MOMENTS OF PERFORMING THE FOUL DEED!



VAL UTTERED A SUDDEN CRY.

SARK! LOOK OUT!



UUGHH!

GET HIM DOWN!



TAKE THEM AWAY! LOCK THEM UP SECURELY UNTIL THEY CAN BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL! IF THEY ARE FOUND GUILTY OF CRIMES AGAINST THE SAFETY OF THE WORLD, THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE PUNISHMENT!



THEY WILL BE SENT THROUGH THE DOOR OF NO RETURN!



VAL GAVE A CRY OF TERROR...

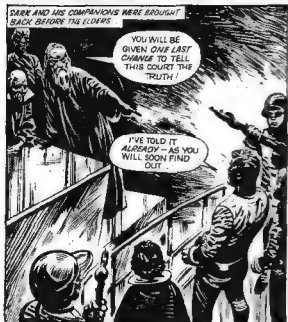
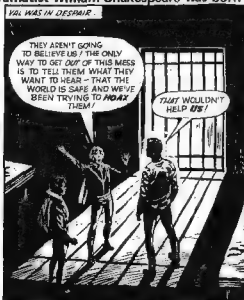
NO! NO! NOT THAT! NOT THE DOOR!



THEY WERE THROWN INTO A CELL.

WHAT IS THIS DOOR THAT WE'RE THREATENED WITH? WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

Famous dramatist William Shakespeare was born in 1564.



THROUGH THE DREADED DOOR-OF-NO-RETURN!

SARK the SLEEPER

SARK'S JOB WAS TO AWAKEN AND TAKE COMMAND OF A LOST CREW WHO HAD REACHED THE END OF ITS CREATIVE DAYS LOCKED TO THE STARS. BUT THE SLEEPER WENT, OF COURSE... SARK SLEPT A THOUSAND YEARS TOO LONG - AND WHEN HE AWOKE, THE DESCENDANTS OF THE ORIGINAL MESSENGERS NO LONGER KNEW THE PURPOSE OF THE VOYAGE. OR EVEN THAT THERE WOULD HAVE A SLEEP. THEY REFUSED TO LISTEN TO SARK, EVEN WHEN THE ALIEN SUGGESTIONS BEGAN TO GIVE EVIDENCE THAT THE ANCIENT SLEEPERHUNT WAS ON THE MARCH TO DESTRUCTION.

WHAT MORE PROOF DO YOU NEED? YOU CAN HEAR AND SEE THE WARNINGS FOR YOURSELF! THE SHIP WILL SOON START TO BREAK AWAY!

IT IS ALL SOME WICKED TRICK TO DECEIVE US! THIS MAN IS **EVIL**!

THE NEWS OF SARK'S RETURN HAD SPREAD THROUGH THE SHIP. IT CAUSED UPRISERS, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE ALARM Began TO SOUND...

BEHOLD THE SIGNS AND WONDERS! HOW CAN YOU **DENY** THAT SARK IS TELLING US THE TRUTH?

BUT SARK AND OPPONENTS AS WELL AS SUPPORTERS...

DON'T LISTEN TO HIM! HE'S A **TROUBLE-MAKER**!

HE'S TRYING TO **DESTROY** OUR WORLD!

EVERYTHING WAS FINE UNTIL THIS MAN WHO CLAIMS TO BE SARK TURNED UP!

WE MUST **SAVE SARK**!

NO! LET THE ELDERS DECIDE!

AN OUTRAGED MESSENGER REPORTED TO THE SESSION OF ELDERS...

THERE'S FIGHTING IN THE STREETS! SARK'S SUPPORTERS ARE **RIISING IN REVOLT**!

LET **ME** TALK TO THEM - TRY TO EXPLAIN! MAYBE I CAN GET THEM **QUIET**!

NO! YOU HAVE CAUSED TOO MUCH TROUBLE ALREADY!

THE ELDERS HAVE CONFERRED TOGETHER AND HAVE COME TO A DECISION! YOU ARE A **WARRIOR** TO THE SAFETY OF THE WORLD! YOU WILL BE SENT THROUGH THE **DOOR OF NO RETURN!** ALL THREE OF YOU!

VAL HAD KITH HIS PAL GREG HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR AWAKENING SARK AND BRINGING HIM BACK, CAID OUT IN ANGER...

NO, NO! IT'S NOT FAIR! WHY SHOULD **ME** SUFFER FOR ANYTHING HE'S SAID? WE'VE DONE **NOTHING**!

SHUT UP! VAL!

The drongo is a crow-like bird living in India, Australia and Africa.



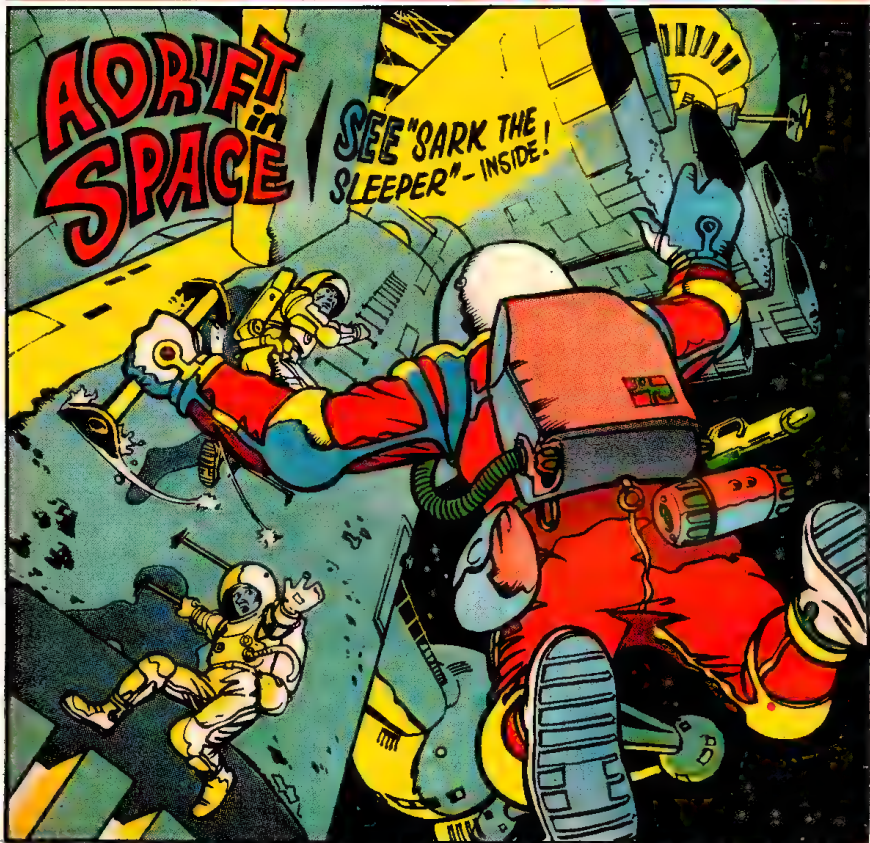
WEIRD THRILLS WITH "ADAM ETERNO"- INSIDE!

LION

4p
-TYPE MONKEY

16th March, 1974

AND THUNDER



South Africa 15c., Australia 15c., New Zealand 15c., Rhodesia 15c., Nigeria K15, Malaya & 60c., Malia 4c. & 6c.

VAL WAS ADRIPT IN SPACE!

SARK the SLEEPER

SARK'S JOB WAS TO AWAKEN AND TAKE COMMAND OF A FIRST SPACESHIP WHEN IT REACHED THE END OF ITS CENTURIES' LONG VOYAGE TO THE STARS. BUT THE SHIP WENT OFF COURSE, SARK SLEPT A THOUSAND YEARS TOO LONG, AND WHEN HE WOKE, THE DESCENDANTS OF THE ORIGINAL PASSENGERS NO LONGER KNEW THE PURPOSE OF THEIR VOYAGE OR EVEN THAT THEIR WORLD WAS A SHIP. SARK WAS REGARDED AS DANGEROUS TROUBLE-MAKER AND, ALONG WITH VAL AND GREG, WHO HAD AWAKENED HIM, WAS CONDEMNED TO BE SENT THROUGH THE DOOR OF NO RETURN...

LET'S MAKE ONE LAST TRY TO GET BACK—BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE! WE MUST TRUST SARK!

BE PREPARED FOR SHOCKS...

SARK'S WARNING DIDN'T COME A MOMENT TOO SOON! AS THE DOOR CLOSED, THE DARKNESS AROUND THEM WAS DISPELLED BY BRILLIANT LIGHT...

WHAT FRESH MAGIC IS THIS?

THERE'S NO MAGIC! EVEN AFTER ALL THE CENTURIES THE SHIP HAS BEEN TRAVELLING THROUGH SPACE THE EMERGENCY LIGHTS ARE STILL WORKING.

MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE SHIP, A GREAT GASP OF AWE WENT UP FROM THE WATCHING THROGS...

THEY HAVE GONE FOR EVER.

THEY WILL NEVER BE SEEN AGAIN!

SARK WAS WORKING SWIFTLY...

THIS IS AN AIR LOCK! IT'S A MEANS OF GETTING OUTSIDE THE SHIP! COME ON! WE MUST MOVE FAST!

I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU HOW TO GET INTO YOUR SPACE SUITS! I'LL ONLY HAVE TIME TO TELL YOU ONCE, SO MAKE SURE YOU GET IT RIGHT THE FIRST TIME! BECAUSE WHEN THE OUTER DOOR OPENS ALL THE AIR WILL ESCAPE! WE'VE GOT ABOUT TWO MINUTES! COME ON...

JUST BEFORE THE DOOR OPENS, THE LIGHTS WILL GO OUT! I'M WARNING YOU NOW, SO THAT YOU WON'T PANIC...

EVEN AS SARK SPARK THE LIGHTS DIMMED SWIFTLY—AND...

HELD TIGHT—OR YOU'LL BE SUCKED OUT AS THE AIR LEAVES IN A SUDDEN RUSH.

Wading Street is the name of an ancient Roman road that ran from the South Coast to Shropshire.

VAL STARED OUT INTO THE AWE-INSPIRING DEPTHS OF SPACE, WHICH NO ONE ABOARD THE SHIP HAD EVER SEEN, OR EVEN BELIEVED EXISTED...



WE...WE CAN'T GO OUT THERE!



YOU'LL GET USED TO IT! FOLLOW ME AND DO EXACTLY AS I DO!



MAKE SURE YOU HOLD ON TIGHT!



ALTHOUGH YOU MAY FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE, THIS SHIP IS TRAVELLING AT TREMENDOUS SPEED! IF YOU BECAME DETACHED FROM IT YOU'D JUST DRIFT AWAY INTO SPACE, AND GO ON TRAVELLING... FOR EVER!



BUT WHERE ARE WE GOING?

TO FIND A WAY BACK INTO THE SHIP, OF COURSE.



COME ON, VAL, OR YOU'LL GET LEFT BEHIND!



AT THAT MOMENT, A HANDHOLD, ROTTEN WITH AGE, SNAPPED UNDER VAL'S GRASP.



SARK!

NEYARRAH!



IT'S VAL! HE LOST HIS GRIP! HE'S FLOATING AWAY!

MORE THRILLS NEXT ISSUE, PALS!

RESCUED FROM A SOLITARY DEATH IN SPACE!

SARK the SLEEPER

SARK SHOULD HAVE AWAKENED TO THE COMMAND OF A VAST SHIPSHIP WHEN IT REACHED THE END OF ITS CONTINUOUS LONG VOYAGE TO THE STARS. BUT THE SLEEP HAD TAKEN COURSE, AND HE SLEPT A THOUSAND YEARS TOO LONG. WHEN VAL AND GREG WERE HIM, THE INHABITANTS OF THE SHIP, DESCENDANTS OF THE ORIGINAL PASSENGERS, REFUSED TO BELIEVE THAT THEY WERE AMONG A SHIP ON A VOYAGE FROM ONE WORLD TO ANOTHER. SARK, VAL AND GREG WERE CONDEMNED TO DEATH, BUT ESCAPED ON TO THE HALL OF THE SHIP IN SPACE SUITS. THEN—VAL ACCIDENTALLY LOST HIS ARM AND DROVE AWAY...



GREG WAS WORRIED



HE SKILFULLY STEERED HIMSELF TOWARDS VAL...



THEN USING THE RECOIL EFFECT OF THE PISTOL, HE DROVE THEM BOTH BACK TOWARDS THE SHIP.



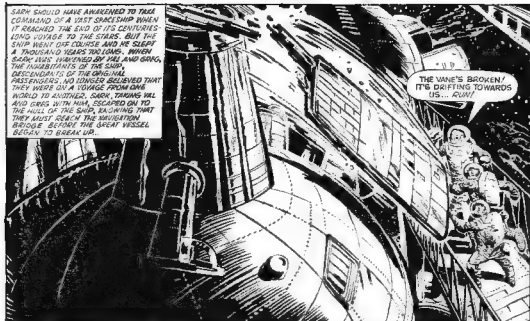
Regular broadcasts of "The Archers" radio programme are helping to teach Gurkha soldiers English.



DEADLY PERIL IN OUTER SPACE!

SARK the SLEEPER

SARK SHOULD HAVE AWAKENED TO TAKE COMMAND OF A FAST ORBITSHIP WHEN IT REACHED THE END OF ITS CENTURIES LONG VOYAGE TO THE STARS. BUT THE SHIP HEUT OUR COURSE AND HE SLEPT A THOUSAND YEARS TOO LONG. WHEN SARK WAS WAKENED BY THE AND GORG, THE PASSENGERS OF THE SHIP, DECLINING TO OF THE ORIGINAL PASSENGERS, WHO LONGER BELIEVED THAT THEY WERE ON A VOYAGE FROM ONE WORLD TO ANOTHER. SARK, THINKING HE AND GORG WITH HIM, ESCAPED ON TO THE HULL OF THE SHIP, REALIZING THAT THEY MUST REACH THE NAVIGATION BRIDGE BEFORE THE GREAT VESSEL BEGINS TO BREAK UP.



"THE VANE'S BROKEN! IT'S DRIFTING TOWARDS US... AWAY!"

EVEN IN THE FULL-GRVITY CONDITIONS OF SPACE, THE AND GORG OBJECT CRASHED AGAINST THE ORBITSHIP.



"THAT WAS CLOSE!"



BUT THE DANGER WAS PROFOUND.

"HANG ON FOR YOUR LIVES!"

"SARK! WHAT IS HAPPENING?"



"THE SHIP'S EVEN CLOSER TO FINAL DESTRUCTION THAN I REALIZED. IT'S WORKING OUT, STARTING TO FALL TO BITS!"



THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME LEFT IF WE DON'T REACH THE NAVIGATION BRIDGE SOON. THE SHIP WILL BE BEYOND CONTROL. EVERYTHING WILL FALL APART, AND EVERYONE ABOARD WILL PERISH!



IT CAN'T BE TRUE! IT MUST BE A NIGHTMARE. WE HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED OUR WORLD, WHICH HAS EXISTED SINCE TIME BEGAN, WOULD GO ON THE SAME FOR EVER. IT CAN'T BE COMING TO AN END.



YOU'VE GOT TO GET IT INTO YOUR HEAD THAT YOUR WORLD ~~NEVER~~ ALWAYS EXISTED. IT WAS BUILT. BUT DURING THE THOUSAND YEARS, WAS SLEEPING YOUR FOREFATHERS FORGOT THE EARTH FROM WHICH THEY CAME, AND THE REASON WHY YOUR ANCESTORS STARTED OUT ON THIS SPACE VOYAGE.

The human body sheds skin particles constantly and changes its surface every few days.



STRANGE WINGED CREATURES RUSHED AT SARK AND CO.!

SARK the SLEEPER

SARK SHOULD HAVE AWAKENED TO TAKE COMMAND OF A FAST SPACE SHIP WHEN IT REACHED THE END OF ITS CENTURIES-LONG JOURNEY TO THE STARS. BUT THE SHIP WENT OFF COURSE AND SARK SLEPT A THOUSAND YEARS TOO LONG, BEFORE HE WAS AWAKENED BY VAL AND GREG, THE DESCENDANTS OF THE ORIGINAL PASSENGERS. DESPITE BELIEVE THAT THEIR WORLD WAS A DROWNING SPACE SHIP, ON TO MEET SARK'S WARNING THAT HE MUST BE AWAKENED TO TAKE CHARGE. WITH VAL AND GREG HE ESCAPED ON TO THE HULL AND HE ENTERED THE SHIP - COULD HE AIR LOCK?



WE WE DAREN'T TRY TO GO DOWN THERE

WE'VE GOT TO HERE - PASS ME THE TORCH!



WE ARE ENTERING WHAT WAS ORIGINALLY A VAST FOREST-GROWING AREA, BUT THE AUTOMATIC CONTROLS MUST HAVE BROKEN DOWN CENTURIES AGO. SO THAT IT'S LONG SINCE BECAME A VAST JUNGLE!

SARK SHOWS THE TORCH

LOOK! THOSE EYES DREADFUL MONSTERS ARE WATCHING US!



THERE WAS A SUDDEN GRANTIC BEATING OF WINGS - AND

THEY'RE ATTACKING US

DON'T PANIC! THEY'RE FAR MORE FRIGHTENED THAN YOU ARE! IT'S THE LIGHT! I'M GOING TO SWITCH OFF THE LIGHT UNTIL THEY QUIETEN DOWN!



SARK INSISTED UNTIL HE WAS SURE THE STEALTHY MONSTERS HAD BEEN COMBATED OFF



LONGER, THEN THERE'S NO TIME TO ARGUE IF WE'RE TO GET THIS SHIP TO SAFETY BEFORE IT STARTS TO BREAKUP.

FOLLOW ME I CLOSER THE HATCH BEHIND YOU!



IS IT SAFE?

SARK WAS BEGINNING TO LOSE PATIENCE WITH THE TIMIDITY OF HIS COMPANIONS.

LISTEN - IT'S TIME YOU GOT IT THROUGH YOUR HEADS - **NOTHING** ON THIS SHIP IS SAFE! EVERYBODY ABOARD, INCLUDING OURSELVES WILL PERISH IN A FEW HOURS, WHEN IT DESTROYS ITSELF. IF WE DON'T MOVE FAST - AND TAKE RISKS!



The game of skittles originated in Germany, where it was known as kegel.



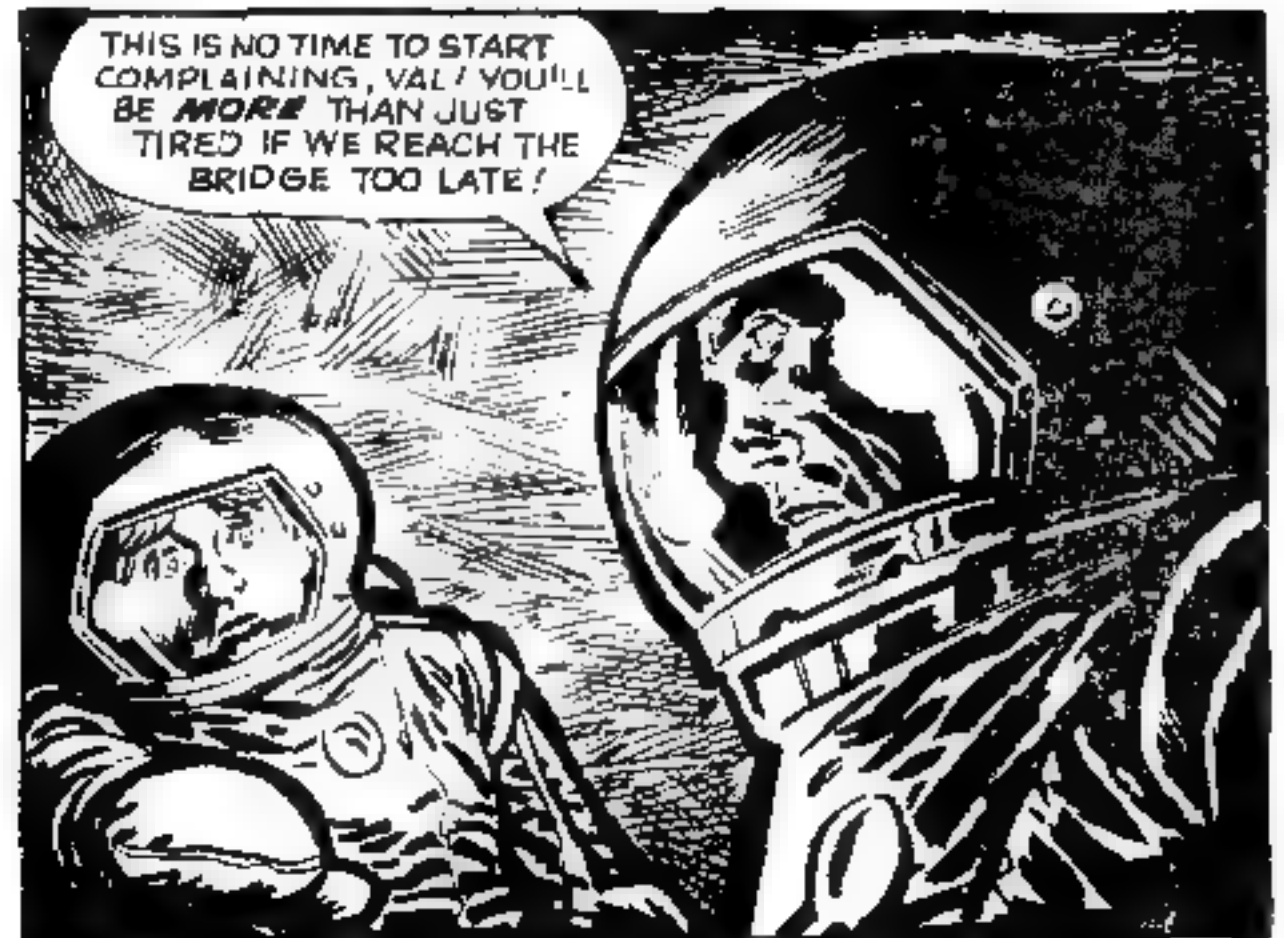
THE UGLIES PREPARED TO STRIKE!

SARK the SLEEPER

SARK WAS AWAKENED A THOUSAND YEARS TOO LATE, BY VAL AND GREG, TO TAKE COMMAND OF A VAST SPACE-SHIP ON A JOURNEY TO THE STARS. THE SHIP WAS NEARING DESTRUCTION. SARK WAS TRYING TO REACH ITS NAVIGATION BRIDGE IN TIME TO SAVE IT, AND WAS MAKING HIS WAY THROUGH AN AREA OF THE SHIP WHICH HAD LONG SINCE FALLEN INTO DECAY...



SLOW DOWN A BIT, SARK! COULDN'T WE STOP FOR A REST? I'M TIRED!



THIS IS NO TIME TO START COMPLAINING, VAL! YOU'LL BE MORE THAN JUST TIRED IF WE REACH THE BRIDGE TOO LATE!

SARK DID NOT REALISE THAT HIS TORCH HAD BEEN SEEN BY A PARTY OF WILD MEN CALLED UGLIES, DESCENDANTS OF PASSENGERS WHO HAD BEEN BANISHED TO A REMOTE PART OF THE SHIP AND HAD DEGENERATED INTO SUPERSTITIOUS SAVAGES...

THERE HAS NEVER BEEN LIGHT IN THE LAND-OF-NO-LIGHT! IT IS MAGIC!



IT IS BAD! WE MUST FOLLOW... AND KILL!



THIS SPACE-SHIP HAS STARTED TO BREAK TO PIECES! WE'VE GOT TO GET IT UNDER CONTROL AND LAND IT SOMEWHERE BEFORE IT SPLITS APART AND KILLS EVERYONE ABOARD!



SARK HAD PAUSED TO CHECK HIS BEARINGS...

WHAT'S THAT?

A DIAGRAM OF THE LAYOUT OF THIS DECK WHEN THE SHIP WAS BUILT!



THAT WAS THE POWER SUB-STATION FOR THIS SECTION! IT MIGHT BE WORTH SPARING A FEW MINUTES TO SEE IF WE CAN GET THE LIGHTS BACK ON!



THE UGLIES HAD NEVER SEEN ANYTHING SO TERRIFYING AS SARK AND HIS COMPANIONS IN THEIR SPACE SUITS...

MONSTERS! AND THEY ARE DESCENDING AMONG US!

THE MAGIC LIGHT WAS A WARNING OF EVIL!

WE MUST DESTROY THESE TERRIBLE CREATURES - BEFORE THEY CAN ATTACK US!

The bi-athlon is a winter sports event, combining ski-ing and rifle shooting.

SARK APPROACHED THE OVERGROWN BUILDING...



THERE SHOULD BE A DOOR HERE SOMEWHERE...

HE WAS UNAWARE OF THE HOSTILE EYES WATCHING...



I KNEW IT! HERE'S THE DOOR!



NOW?

WAIT! WE CAN KILL THEM WHENEVER WE WANT! LET US FIRST TRY TO DISCOVER THE PURPOSE OF THESE EVIL CREATURES!



RIGHT! LET'S TAKE A LOOK INSIDE!

IS... IS IT SAFE?

WHY NOT? ACCORDING TO SARK, NO ONE'S BEEN HERE FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS!



HOLD THAT WHILE I TAKE MY HEADSET OFF-- SO I CAN SEE TO WORK BETTER!



FANTASTIC! THIS UNIT MUST HAVE RUN FAULTLESSLY FOR CENTURIES! THEN, A FUSE BLEW! BUT BY THAT TIME NO ONE KNEW HOW TO REPLACE IT! I'LL TRY CHANGING OVER TO THE STAND-BY CIRCUITS!



THE WHIRL OF A DYNAMO STARTING UP TERRIFIED THE UGIES AND STAMPEDED THEIR CATTLE... CRASH! RUUUUUUMMM!



THE THRUSHING OF THE STARTLED CATTLE WARNED SARK AND HIS COMPANIONS OF LURKING DANGER.

THERE'S SOMEBODY OUT THERE! WE'RE BEING SPIED ON!



THE DEMONS WORK WITH MAGIC!

KILL! KILL!

THE UGIES DECIDED THEY MUST STRIKE...

MORE THRILLS IN OUR NEXT ISSUE!

"SEEK SARK OUT—AND DESTROY HIM!"

SARK the SLEEPER

SARK WAS AWAKENED A THOUSAND YEARS TOO LATE, BY HAL AND GERS, TO TAKE COMMAND OF A VAST SPACESHIP ON A JOURNEY TO THE STARS. THE MARSHALLS AND FOR MANY GENERATIONS JUST FORGOTTEN THAT THEIR WORLD WAS A SHIP. AND THAT THEIR ANCESTORS HAD STARTED OUT ON A GABRIEL VOYAGE. NOW THE ANCIENT SHIP WAS AGAINST DESTRUCTION, AND SARK WAS TRYING TO REACH ITS NAVIGATION BRIDGE IN TIME TO SAVE IT. IN A DROPPED AREA OF THE SHIP WHERE THE LIGHTS HAD LONG SINCE FAILED, SARK WAS SET UPON BY UGLIES, NINE AND DOZENS OF THEM, AND GABRIEL.

IF MY REPAIRS HOLD, WE SHOULD GET THE LIGHTS GOING AGAIN.



AS SOON AS I REACH THE DOOR—PULL THAT SWITCH!

YOU'RE NOT GOING OUT THERE, AGAINST THOSE UNDESIRABLE SAVAGES?



BUT IT WILL ONLY HELP THE UGLIES TO SEE US BETTER—AND THEY'RE OUT TO KILL US!



CAN YOU SUGGEST A BETTER IDEA? WE CAN'T JUST LET THEM KEEP US COOPED UP IN THIS PLACE!



WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THE NAVIGATION BRIDGE—SO THAT I CAN BRING THIS SHIP UNDER CONTROL, AND FIND A SUITABLE PLANET WHERE WE CAN LAND! NO ONE ELSE CAN DO IT! YOUR PEOPLE WOULDN'T KNOW HOW, EVEN IF I COULD CONVINCE THEM THAT THEIR WORLD IS A SHIP.

SARK WAS RELYING ON THE EFFECT CARRYING HIS HELMET UNDER HIS ARM WOULD HAVE ON THE UGLIES, WHEN HE STEPPED THROUGH THE DOOR...



AAARSH!

HE CARRIES HIS HEAD UNDER HIS ARM!



SPRT!

ZZZZ!

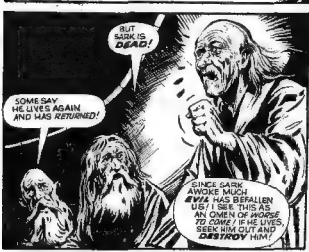
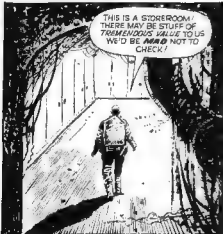
AAIE! HE WORKS GREAT WONDERS.

THE LIGHTS BLAZED OUT EVERYWHERE.



WHO IS THIS MIGHTY BRING WHO BRINGS LIGHT TO THE DARKNESS?

The nautical measure, a fathom, was originally based on the span of a man's arms.



LAUGHS WITH "THE LAST OF THE HARKERS"-INSIDE!

LION

4p
EVERY MONDAY

4th MAY, 1974

AND THUNDER



South Africa 15c... Austria 15c... New Zealand 15c... Rhodesia 15c... Nigeria 20c... Malaysia 15c... Malaya 15c...

THE METAL MONSTER WITH THE KILLER-TENTACLES!

SARK the SLEEPER

DARK HAD ENLIGHTENED 1000 YEARS TOO LATE. BY VAL AND GREG TO TAKE COMMAND OF A FAST SPACE-SHIP ON A VOYAGE TO REACH THE STARS. THE INHABITANTS HAD FOR MANY GENERATIONS JUST FORGOTTEN THAT THEIR WORLD WAS A SHIP AND THAT THEIR ANCESTORS HAD SET OUT ON A BARELY VOYAGE. SOME-ONE HAD REPAIRED THE SHIP. DARK HAD BECOME SAVANLS. DARK, TRYING TO REACH THE NAVIGATION BUOY, HAD JUST RESTORED LIGHT TO ONE OF THE DARK AREAS — EYEEN...

HE HAS ROUSED A MONSTER!

I CERTAINLY SEEM TO HAVE ACTIVATED MORE THAN THE LIGHTS WHEN I RESTORED THE POWER CIRCUITS!

ALL DO NO GOOD STANDING HERE! MUST FIND OUT WHAT'S CAUSING ALL THE TROUBLE AND TRY TO PUT A STOP TO IT!

CAREFUL! IT MUST BE SOMETHING WITH SUCH TERRIBLE STRENGTH THAT IT COULD DESTROY EVEN YOU!

GREG TURNED TO VAL...

COME ON! WE CAN'T LET HIM GO IN THERE ALONE!

KRUNGH! SNIFFLE!

WH-WHAT KIND OF MONSTER IS IT?

BLIZZ!

IT'S NOT A MONSTER! IT'S A MACHINE!

DARK ESCAPED DEATH BY INCHES AS HE DODGED BETWEEN THE SLANGING METAL ARMS TO REACH THE MACHINE.

HE DARES TO FIGHT THE MONSTER!

IT WILL TEAR HIM TO PIECES!

THEN HE SWITCHED THE MACHINE OFF.

THIS PLACE WAS ORIGINALLY A VAST AVIATION FOR KEEPING THE SHIP SUPPLIED WITH TIMBER. THE MACHINE WAS USED TO HARVEST THE TREES!

The griffin is a mythical creature with an eagle's head and the body of a lion.



"THE DAY OF DOOM HAS ARRIVED!"

SARK the SLEEPER

SARK WAS AWAKENED A THOUSAND YEARS TOO LATE OF HIS AND GARG, TO TAKE COMMAND OF A NEW SPACE SHIP ON ITS JOURNEY FROM EARTH TO THE STARS. SARK WAS TRYING TO BRACE THE NAVIGATION BRIDGE BEFORE THE ANCHOR COULDN'T BEYOND CONTROL AND DESTROYED EVERYONE ABOARD IN A DECKLING PART OF THE SHIP. HE ENCOUNTERED A TROVE. WHO HAD REJECTED TO SAVAGERY. THEY WERE YOUNG! AND HE WAS STARLING FOOD WITH THEM...

THE POT'S EMPTY!

BUT MORE AND MORE USLES ARE COMING TO BE FED!

DON'T PANIC! THERE'S ENOUGH CONCENTRATED FOOD HERE TO FEED THE ENTIRE SHIP! JUST KEEP PLenty OF WATER BOILING!

SARK WAS UNWARE THAT HE WAS BEING WATCHED BY A DOCTOR FROM THE STILL-INVULNERABLE PART OF THE SHIP. SENT TO MOUNT HIM DOWN...

THIS IS A GREAT MARVEL! ALL ARE FED. YET THE POT STAYS FULL!

WE MUST RETURN TO REPORT THIS TO THE COUNCIL OF ELITES!

BUT WILL ANYONE BELIEVE US?

MIGHTY IS SARK, THE MAKER OF LIGHT, THE GIVER OF FOOD...

ON YOUR FEET! IF YOU'RE ALL HAD ENOUGH, WE MUST PUSH ON TO THE NAVIGATION BRIDGE!

THE VAST, ANCIENT SHIP WAS REARER DESTRUCTION THAN EVEN SARK REALIZED...

THE AIR BEGAN MORE BITTER! SNOW BEGAN TO FALL... TO THE TERROR OF THE USLES WHO HAD NEVER EXPERIENCED CHANGES IN TEMPERATURE IN THEIR LIVES...

S-STRANGE DEMONS HAVE TAKEN POSSESSION OF ME! I C-CANNOT KEEP MY LIMBS STILL!

WE CAN'T GO ON!

WE'VE VERY LITTLE TIME LEFT! THE SHIP IS BEARING UP FAST! I'VE GOT TO GET IT UNDER CONTROL AND MAKE SARK'S PLANET FALL BEFORE IT COMPLETELY FALLS TO PIECES!

SARK GAVE A SUDDEN CHINER - AND REALIZED THAT EVERYONE WAS BEGINNING TO LOOK BLUE WITH COLD...

BRR! THE TEMPERATURE'S FALLING! THAT'S A BAD SIGN!

TEMPERATURE? WHAT IS THAT? I HEARD NOTHING FALL!

KEEP SOME! YOU MUST! THERE'S HARDLY ANY TIME LEFT! THE SYSTEMS THAT HAVE KEPT THE SHIP STABLE FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS ARE COLLAPSING!

John Dory is a type of fish, sometimes found in British waters.

THE GUILD WAS ALSO APPARENTLY THE ENGLISH PART OF THE SHIP. BARRAGE, UNTIL NOW, NOTHING HAD EVER CHANGED SINCE THE VIKING BEAM.

WHAT TERRIBLE AFFLICTION HAS SARK BROUGHT UPON US?

THE GUY IS FALLING!

IT MUST BE THE END OF THE WORLD!

SARK EVERYTHING WAS DRIPPING HOT - ANOTHER SUN OVERCAST, AND THE PEOPLE OF THE SHIP.

IT IS GOOD NOT TO FEEL WHAT YOU CALL "COLD" ANYMORE! BUT I DO NOT LIKE THE DISCOMFORT OF THIS WATER THAT COMES FROM ON HIGH!

AFTER A WHILE, SARK NOTICED THAT THE WEATHER BECAME WARMER.

THE TEMPERATURE'S RISEN AGAIN! LET'S HOPE THE EMERGENCY BACKUP CIRCUITS ARE TAKING OVER AND RESTORING THINGS TO NORMAL.

THE MIST THICKENED INTO SWIRLING FOG.

WE ARE HEARING THE CITY - THE HIGHWAY THAT LEADS TO THE NAV BRIDGE MUST BE SOMEWHERE AHEAD.

IN THE CITY, THE PAIR WAS INCREASING.

THE UGLIES ARE COMING / SARK IS LEADING THEM!

SARK AND THE UGLIES MUST BE DESTROYED! YOU MUST FIGHT FOR YOUR LIVES!

SARK HEARD REMAINING SOUNDS AHEAD AND CALLED A HAIL...

WE MUST FIGHT TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM DOOM!

DEAR SARK! COME OFF THE UGLIES!

THEY'LL STOP US REACHING THE BRIDGE IF THEY CAN! GREG, YOU LEAD THE UGLIES IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION WHILE I AL SHOVE ME THE WAY!

THERE'S A TREMENDOUS FIGHT GOING ON DOWN THERE / GREG MUST TRY TO HOLD OUT A LITTLE LONGER!

THE DOOR TO THE NAV BRIDGE - WE ARE ALMOST THERE!

THE DAY IS DOOM THAT SARK FORGOT TO COME!

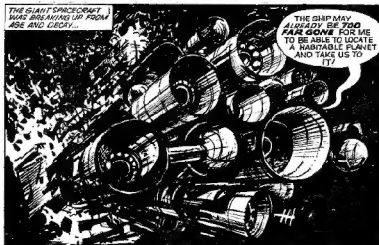
CURSE IT! IT... IT WON'T OPEN!

THE PATROLS ARE ALMOST UPON US! MY HAVE FAILED!

MORE THRILLER NEXT WEEK!

THE VAST STARSHIP WAS CRUMBLING TO BITS!

SARK the SLEEPER



A Viennese lady who hated her relatives burned her entire fortune the day before she died.



ATTENTION! THIS IS THE ADMIRAL COMMANDING **NEW EARTH SPACE FLEET**! WE HAVE HAD YOUR APPROACH UNDER OBSERVATION FOR THE PAST HUNDRED DAYS! I AM SENDING A BOARDING PARTY! MAKE **NO** HOSTILE MOVE!



SARK TURNED TO GREG IN BEWILDERMENT...
IT'S INCREDIBLE! I WAS PREPARED FOR ANYTHING... EXCEPT THIS! THAT THERE SHOULD BE PEOPLE HERE WAITING FOR US!



GREG'S PAL VAL, WHO HAD BEEN IN CHARGE OF A WILD TRIBE LOYAL TO SARK, ARRIVED ON THE NAVIGATION BRIDGE.

WHAT IS HAPPENING? EVERYONE IS TERRIFIED! THEY ARE SURE IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD!

NOT THE END! A NEW BEGINNING!

WE ARE ABOUT TO BE VISITED BY BEINGS FROM... FROM BEYOND...



THE BOARDING PARTY ARRIVED...

WHAT SHIP IS THIS? IT LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A MUSEUM! DAMMIT, IT'S FALLING TO PIECES!

MY NAME IS SARK! I WAS PUT IN COMMAND OF THE FIRST STARSHIP EVER LAUNCHED FROM THE SOLAR SYSTEM! BUT SOMETHING WENT WRONG...



YOU'RE SARK? KIDS LEARN ABOUT YOU IN THEIR HISTORY LESSONS! THEY GAVE UP SEARCHING FOR YOU FIVE HUNDRED YEARS AGO! NO WONDER YOU TOOK SO LONG TO GET HERE! FASTER-THAN-LIGHT TRAVEL HADN'T BEEN INVENTED WHEN YOUR VOYAGE BEGAN! OVER A THOUSAND YEARS IN SPACE? PHEW!

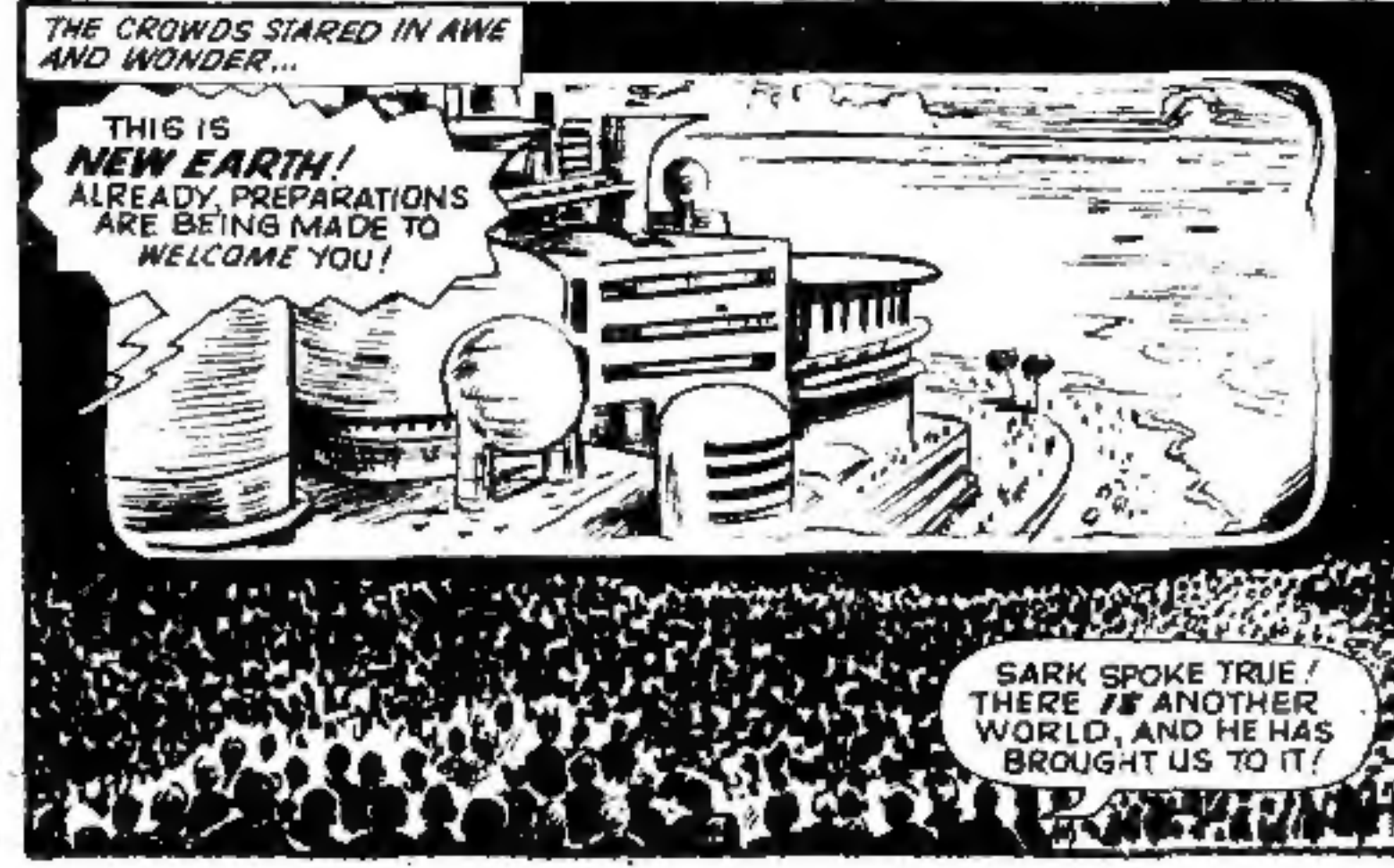


WAIT UNTIL THE ADMIRAL HEARS ABOUT THIS! FROM THE STATE OF YOUR SHIP, I'D SAY WE FOUND YOU JUST IN TIME! WE'LL TAKE YOU IN TOW! YOU'D NEVER MAKE IT ON YOUR OWN!



THE ANCIENT SHIP WAS TOWED TOWARDS THE PLANET...

SWITCH ON THE VISION SCREENS! LET THE PEOPLE SEE WHERE THEY ARE GOING!



THE CROWDS STARED IN AWE AND WONDER...

THIS IS **NEW EARTH**! ALREADY, PREPARATIONS ARE BEING MADE TO WELCOME YOU!

SARK SPOKE TRUE! THERE IS ANOTHER WORLD, AND HE HAS BROUGHT US TO IT!



MIGHTY IS SARK!

HE SHALL BE HONOURED FOR EVER!

HE HAS BROUGHT US TO OUR **JOURNEY'S END!**

THE END